

TOWN OF WESTON

P.O. BOX 98

WESTON, VT 05161

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 13th, 2022 at 7:30 PM

Present: Denis Benson, Charles Goodwin, Ann Fuji'I, Lisa Yrsha and Jim Linville

Absent: None

Public: Natalie Boston, Almon Crandall, Ryan Palmer, Esther Fishman, Kelly Pajala, Jason Marino, Sarah Kiefer and Donald Hart.

Zoom: Kim Seymour, Deborah Granquist, Linda Saarnijoki and Jessica Clapp

Denis Benson calls the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

- 1. Road Forman Almon Crandall:** Almon Crandall begins by saying there is not much to report. Still have not gotten the needed part for the new truck and no word on when it will be available. Question of a tree on Old Tavern Road being a concern but Almon says Green Mountain Power will deal with it. Denis Benson asks Almon about the current salt supply and Almon explains the supply is fine if they could receive it. He explains he has placed 2 orders but neither have shown up yet. Almon says all the equipment is up and running fine.
- 2. Review and Approve Minutes:** Discussion on corrections. Jim Linville moves to approve with corrections, Lisa Yrsha 2nd. *Unanimously approved.* Natalie Boston will type up corrected draft and leave for signature on the conference table.
- 3. Changes and Additions to the Agenda:** Jim Linville notes needing to go into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel.
- 4. Public Comment:** None.
- 5. Ryan Palmer Sheriff-Elect, Windsor County:** Ryan Palmer begins with introduction. He goes on to explain his goals and plans for the future of Windsor County Sheriff's department. Wishes to change the culture and better serve the small towns. Plans to have better availability for calls to service, not just writing tickets but a more robust small town Law enforcement presence. Discussion. Charles Goodwin asks where department funding comes from. Ryan explains that he would like a budget line for contractual service. Lisa Yrsha asks how many officers he oversees and Ryan says 14. He goes on to say the contractual service would be in the \$30-\$60 range per year to guarantee patrolling coverage for a set amount of time. Discussion. Ryan then asks how they can bring more to Weston or serve residents better than they have been in the past. Discussion. Denis Benson notes it

will be a "Hard sell", explains there are a lot of different organizations requesting funding.

6. **Londonderry Solid Waste Group:** Esther Fishman begins by giving an overview for her role as Recycling Coordinator. She notes that the recycling program is not doing as well as it has in the past. No one is buying materials. Discussion. Esther mentions the need for the purchase of a Backhoe next year (2023), explains they are looking at a slightly used one but will need to be budgeted for. She also mentions Holiday hours for the transfer station: Open Saturday the 24th, closed the 25th and 26th, then also closed Saturday the 31st as well as Sunday the 1st.
7. **(Skip to #9) Londonderry Athletic Director:** Denis Benson says that the Selectboard has not voted on this yet. Jim Linville explains his opinion at this time is it may be most beneficial to the Weston Resident to "sit tight" and not sign on to this program yet. See how the 6 months work out and can readdress and bring to Town Meeting in 2024. Annie Fuji'i asks if they have tried to do any surveys online to see the different town's interest in this, how residents feel and its feasibility. Discussion. Denis Benson notes he realizes that they are just putting this together but concern for how long until they need to build a building for winter activities. Kelly Pajala say that the current proposal is just for the 1 full time position and the details to be worked out by the future Advisory Committee. Discussion. Sarah Kiefer notes that 20% of kids in current programs are Weston Residents. Discussion.
8. **Gabion Wall:** Jim Linville says he is meeting with ACOE (Army Corps of Engineers) on January 4th. He says he thinks he has gotten their attention on this issue and there may be funding for repairs of the wall (over 50 years old). Discussion. Donald Hart notes looking for the original plans for the construction of the bridge.
9. **Friends of The Weston Community:** Jim Linville summarizes who is responsible for what for the "River property" by the Library. He explains the plan is for the land to go back to the town once the Library has water access. Deborah Granquist says they want to keep the Selectboard informed as they move forward. Discussion. Will reach out to the community and town after the 1st of the year.
10. **Postage Machine Replacement for Town Office:** Kim Seymour explains need to upgrade current machine, currently is \$75 a month and will be \$90. Jim Linville moves to upgrade the postage machine, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
11. **Vermont Community Broadband Board ARPA Request:** Jim Linville begins and says DVCUD goal is to get fiber optic to the "Last Mile" of all towns, they are moving along and looking for ARPA funds (\$17,000) into the big overall project (not just Weston solely). Jim goes on to say his personal opinion is not to give them the funding due to no tangible results. Jim Linville moves to respectfully decline the request, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*
12. **Delinquent Tax Report:** Jim Linville moves to reflect in the minutes the Selectboard reviewed and thanks for work done, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

13. SO #26, Payroll, SO #26 Vendors: Jim Linville moves to approve SO #26 Payroll for the amount of \$8,250.24, Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

Jim Linville moves to approve SO #26 Vendors in the amount of \$20,257.51, Charles Godwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

14. New/Old Business: Jim Linville says he would like to go into executive session **1 VSA S313 A3**, Annie Fuji'i 2nd.

Denis Benson asks about the Mount Holly Land Transfer to Vermont Fish and Wildlife. Explains how he has observed the access road has a gate up and frustrated because had been under the impression it would be available to the public and hunting. Discussion. Natalie Boston will reach out to them and request they come to the next meeting and add to the agenda. Annie Fuji'i asks Natalie Boston about posting of agenda's, the last Planning Commission agenda had been physically posted but could not be found online. Natalie Boston apologizes and explains that she must have made a mistake when posting online. She will be sure to double check when posting things online from now on to be sure that doesn't occur again.

Lisa Yrsha says there is an issue with the town garage septic that will need to be addressed. Will need a new system and a new bathroom. Denis Benson says to come up with a price for budgeting.

Unanimously approved to go into executive session.

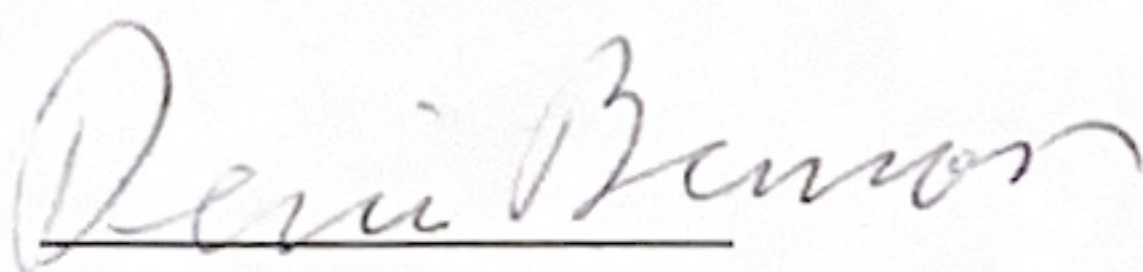
Into Executive session at 9:02 PM

Out at 9:31 PM

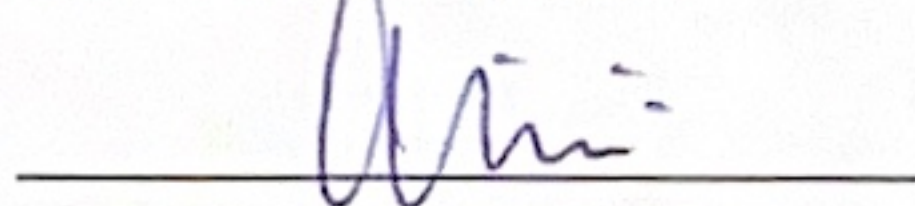
Lim Linville moves to accept Chris Morrow's resignation from the Conservation Commission and thank him for his service. Charles Goodwin 2nd. *Unanimously approved.*

Meeting Adjourned by Chair Denis Benson at 9:35 PM

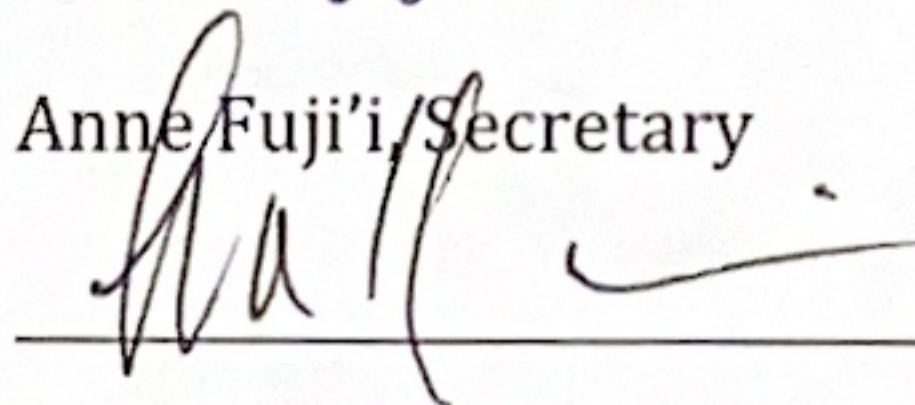
Weston Selectboard:



Denis Benson, Chair



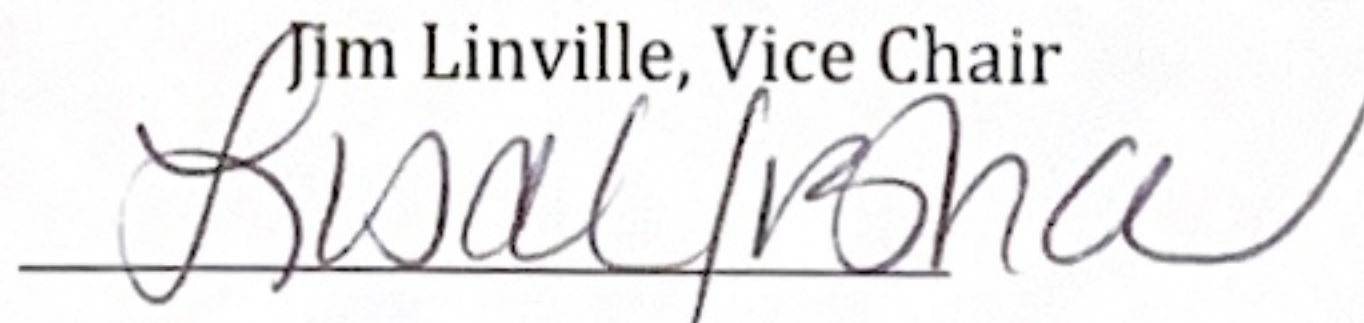
Anne Fuji'i, Secretary



Charles Goodwin



Jim Linville, Vice Chair



Lisa Yrsha